

Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is committed to providing service delivery options that empower Medicaid clients and their families to direct and manage the long-term care services and supports they need to live at home.

What is CDASS?

CDASS is a service delivery option in which a client may choose to direct and manage their attendants who provide personal care, homemaker and health maintenance services rather than working through an agency. Through CDASS, clients are empowered to hire, train and manage the attendants of their choice to best fit their unique needs or may delegate these responsibilities to an Authorized Representative. CDASS is available in the following Home and Community Based (HCBS) waivers: Elderly, Blind and Disabled (EBD), Community Mental Health Supports (CMHS), Spinal Cord Injury (SCI).

Services

- Personal Care includes assistance with activities such as bathing, dressing or eating.
- Health Maintenance includes assistance with health related activities that are typically
 provided by a certified or licensed attendant, such as a CNA, LPN or RN. In CDASS,
 the Nurse Practice Act has been waived so that clients have the flexibility to hire and
 train staff without certifications or licensure.
- Homemaker Services include assistance with general household activities needed to
 maintain a healthy and safe living environment, such as housekeeping, meal preparation
 and laundry.

How does it work and what are the benefits?

Clients in CDASS work closely with their case manager to determine the amount of services needed to support their assessed needs. Clients are able to use Medicaid dollars to pay the attendant of their choice rather than a home health agency or personal care agency. Management of Medicaid funds is a key element of the CDASS service delivery model, allowing for increased client choice and control. Flexibility in how CDASS services are utilized enables clients to manage the services they need to live independently and to more fully participate in their communities.

Who is eligible?

CDASS clients must be Medicaid recipients who are eligible for one of the HCBS waivers in which CDASS is an approved service delivery option. CDASS clients must demonstrate a need for personal care, homemaker or health maintenance services. Furthermore, CDASS clients must be in stable health and able to direct their own services or assign an Authorized Representative.

How do people enroll in CDASS?

The first step is to contact a local Single Entry Point agency, which specializes in determining eligibility, planning care, and providing referrals. A full list of SEP agencies by county can be found at Colorado.gov/hcpf > Clients & Applicants > Long-Term Care > SEP.

Program Contact:

<u>Candie Dalton</u> 303-866-2755

Media Contact:
Rachel Reiter
303-866-3921